

City hall jumps on the bus

Five councillors take up TRUE challenge to travel only by transit for a week

JEFF CUMMINGS
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Transit needs to be improved across the city, say five councillors who vowed to travel only by transit for the next week.

Coun. Dave Thiele, along with four other councillors, have agreed to use the service to get around the city for the next week under a new challenge by the Transit

Riders Union of Edmonton (TRUE).

"I think this puts a profile on transit within our city, and anyone can use transit," said Thiele. "They just have to plan around it when they use it."

Councillors Don Iveson, Ben Henderson, Amarjeet Sohi and Linda Sloan are also taking part in the challenge.

Sohi, a former

"I think this puts a profile on transit within our city and anyone can use transit."

Coun. Dave Thiele

bus driver, told reporters that municipal leaders will have a better understanding in how to handle transit issues if they use the system.

TRUE made the challenge public in a forum at the City Centre Mall yesterday that will "coincide

with the city's budget deliberations, which afforded an opportunity to increase the transit budget and reconsider the proposed fare increase," the group said on its website.

"Councillors will gain an appreciation for

the strengths and weaknesses of Edmonton's transit system, and will be able to base their future decisions on first-hand experience," said the group in a statement.

Edmonton Transit is going through a period of transition as it prepares to open a new light rail extension to the south side and scrap its venerable fleet of trolley buses.

All of the

city's nearly 50 trolleys and overhead lines will be scrapped and replaced by hybrid diesel buses that city bureaucrats say will be more efficient, less expensive and better for the environment.

The decision will save the city \$100 million in trolley maintenance costs over the next 18 years, city officials say. That money will be put toward operating the LRT and hybrid buses.

Health pg 10



Curb cubicle coughing

Your Money pg 7

Money crisis? Been there

Entertainment pg 11



It's all OK with Serena Ryder

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Postal workers picket on a chilly morning outside the downtown post office on 104 Street. The members of the Postal Communications Employees Union say they are fighting to keep their benefits.

Posties walk the holiday line

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Christmas shoppers fretting a postal strike could cause some gifts to be delayed in the mail don't have to fret, said Canada Post.

The union representing

2,100 mail support workers across Canada, including 113 in Alberta, voted 88 per cent in favour of striking in opposition to proposals on short-term disability and sick pay.

"The big answer is don't worry about it," said John Caines, a spokesman with

Canada Post.

Caines said the striking workers staff administration and technical departments, so no mail slowdown is expected. The workers represent five per cent of Canada Post's workforce.

Canada Post has given the Union of Postal Communi-

cations Employees a "final offer," that included a short-term disability program.

The union was contacted, but has yet to respond.



Watch why Canada Post's plan could cost taxpayers at metronews.ca/local

COLD-FX part of cancer trial

HEALTH American cancer researchers will try to figure out if an Edmonton-made cold-fighting medicine will help cancer patients, said the drug-maker yesterday.

Edmonton-based CV Technologies Inc., the makers of COLD-FX, says it has struck a deal with the U.S. National Cancer Institute that will sponsor a trial of the drug to cancer patients.

The National Cancer Institute says on its website this trial is important because both the cancer and its treatment, "... can impair immune system functioning ..."

"Our hypothesis — that COLD-FX could reduce infections by enhancing immune function in chronic lymphocytic leukemia patients — is supported by previous research," said Dr. Kevin High, a chief researcher at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

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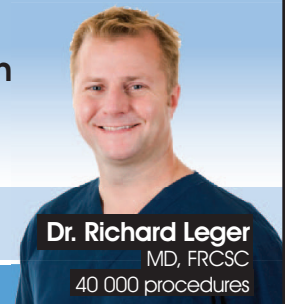
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In a sure sign of winter the Klondyke (Vega) Ferry will close for the winter season near Fort Assiniboine. Service ends on Nov. 18 until it re-opens in early to mid-May. The Alberta government operates seven ferries on the provincial highway network. For more information, see www.transportation.alberta.ca/1965.htm **METRO EDMONTON**

Klondyke (Vega) Ferry closing till spring

Local



Info sought on Red Deer damage

Red Deer police are looking for someone who stole a giant oilsands mining truck and took it on a rampage through a recreation area. On Nov. 14, about 9:45 p.m., someone drove the Cat Triple-7 mine hauler off of a semi, causing heavy damage to the truck, trailer and then the ball diamonds at Edgar Industrial Park. Anyone with information is asked to call Red Deer Mounties.

METRO EDMONTON

Sweet sale Spreading joy



Ana Villota, Kyle Lillo, and Kelvin Singh proudly display the candy canes they are selling to NAIT staff and students at \$1 a piece to raise money for Kyle's Joy Cart. Each month, Kyle takes his Joy Cart around the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital and gives gifts to stroke and pediatric patients.

Crown lays out Steinke case

TRIAL Planned and deliberate, motive and means, Jeremy Steinke killed his 12-year-old girlfriend's family to keep her, a jury heard yesterday on the opening day of the triple murder trial.

The Crown laid out their case against Steinke, on trial for the slaying of three members of a Medicine Hat family in April 2006,

saying a confession to an undercover police officer should remove any shadow of a doubt of his responsibility for the deaths.

The girl, who can't be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, was sentenced to 10 years in a psychiatric facility after being found guilty of three counts of first-degree murder.

METRO CANADA

Halt for-profit clinics: Group

VICTORIA HANDSIDES
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Friends of Medicare are crying foul on nine Alberta medical operations that they say are violation of the Canada Health Act.

These for-profit clinics across the province offer expedited medical services like checkups, advice, and prescription renewals — all

for a price.

One such Edmonton clinic, Dominion Medical Centres, offers "executive health examinations" in which patients are given vision and hearing testing, cancer screening, and CT scanning for \$1,050.

"They're simply charging so people can gain access in a market where there's a shortage of doctors," said Friends of Medicare

spokesman David Eggan.

Eggon says most family doctors have a list upwards of 1,200 patients, and it's tempting for physicians to set themselves up in pay-for practices, to cut down the numbers.

"But it's not like this private system is helping the public overall. What they're doing is fencing off a piece of our health care system. Nobody gains from

that, we're not building our capacity, and just scattering off into pieces.

Eggon is calling on Health Minister Ron Liepert to ensure suspected violations don't continue, as the local health authority could face federal reparations.

"When you don't enforce the law, you send a message to people that it's okay to break that law," Eggon said.

Sex show ready to heat city up

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Edmonton is full of a healthy crop of sexy individuals, who are converging under one roof this weekend to celebrate the naughty and the nice.

The eighth annual Taboo: The Naughty But Nice Sex Show runs this weekend at Northlands AgriCom, and is giving local sexperts a chance to get risqué.

"I'm very excited for it — this is always something I've wanted to do," said first-time exhibitor Chris Harder.

Harder's Edmonton-based company, Ace Records, has booked three booths for the show, and will be presenting local hip-hop moguls, Uncle Sam and Shamik.

The company recently shot two lingerie calendars with all local girls wearing locally and Brazilian-made adult apparel.

In addition to an eight-man hot tub for weary sex-show patrons, Ace Records is hosting a booth that shows real women how they can get involved in modelling, with a mock photo studio.

"You never know when regular girls think they might want to try modelling," Harder said. "We want to make sure that people are extremely comfortable and figure out just what end of



Old-school burlesque performer Zsa Zsa LaBitche will heat things up this weekend in the Naughty But Nice Sex Show at Northlands AgriCom.

the business they want to work in, and point them in the right direction."

Taboo also boasts a list of risqué seminars and hands-on workshops on topics about how to improve and understand our sexuality.

Local entertainment for the show includes the likes of local deviant burlesque vixen Zsa Zsa LaBitche, accompanied by pals Jade Grenade and Luna Rosa.

"We're like a rock-and-roll vampire-themed strip show," says Zsa Zsa. "We've

got, blood, and boobs, and pasties and all that jazz."

The sex-show vet has been a main-stage event for the past two years.

"I love performing and being on stage. The sex show is a great opportunity to target all different demographics of people."

The show features over 100 exhibitors and is expected to draw 20,000 visitors. Tickets for the show are \$15 and are available at the door, or \$10 online at www.canwestshows.com/sexshow.

Teens receive probation in cat death trial

CAMROSE Two teens have been put on probation for their part in a vicious crime, where a cat was killed in a microwave.

The Camrose teens, aged 14 and 16, pleaded guilty to a break and enter charge, in relation to the Dec. 29, 2007, incident.

All other charges, including causing unnecessary pain and suffering to an animal, were dropped.

Part of the teens' probation conditions include a curfew, zero contact with the cat's owners, community service, no video games without parental approval, and a \$250 fine.

The two apparent ring-leaders of the untimely death of Princess were sentenced in September and handed probation with similar conditions.

Animal rights activists have marched with signs outside the Camrose courthouse since the teens first went to trial.

VICTORIA HANDSIDES
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Man allegedly smashes head after arrest

CHARGES A 27-year-old man smashed his head repeatedly after police arrested him for mischief Saturday morning.

Police say the man began to strike his head several times against the Plexiglas of the patrol car inside the vehicle after he was arrested.

The man, who was allegedly trying to get into a

woman's suite in an apartment building on McAllister Loop, in southwest Edmonton, was calmed down briefly when police stopped the vehicle.

After being placed in his cell, police had to remove the man who was rushed to hospital to get treated for bruises and bumps to his

head, said police.

Police say the man was taken back to the southwest division station where he was charged.

Samuel Hunter Smith was charged with mischief under \$5,000, breach of recognizance, and breach of a conditional sentence order.

JEFF CUMMINGS/METRO EDMONTON

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Montreal firebomber gets four years

One-half of a Montreal duo accused of firebombing two Jewish institutions was sentenced yesterday to four years in prison for what a judge described as a terrorist act. Azim Ibragimov, 25, pleaded guilty to tossing a Molotov cocktail at a Jewish school in September 2006. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Canada



Mad cow case confirmed

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency confirmed its 15th case of mad cow disease since 2003 yesterday and identified the animal as a seven-year-old dairy cow born well after Ottawa banned feed practices thought to spread the disease. The group said no part of the animal's carcass entered the human food or animal feed supply. The cow was discovered on a farm in British Columbia. **REUTERS**

Edmonton man recovering in B.C.

Rescue crews arrive at site of fatal plane crash which claimed seven

MARIA COOTAUCO
for Metro Vancouver



Search and rescue crews hiked half a kilometre yesterday morning to reach the site of a plane crash on Thormanby Island near Sechart that killed seven of eight passengers.

A 35-year-old Edmonton man was the lone survivor of the crash, escaping just before the plane exploded. Tom Wilson is recovering in a Vancouver Hospital from cuts and burns.

The Pacific Coastal Air Drummond Goose plane took off from Vancouver International Airport on

Work continues on crash site

- RCMP police and investigators are set to return to the crash site this morning to remove the bodies.

Sunday at about 10 a.m. and was headed for Powell River. It crashed 20 minutes into the flight.

The plane had been delayed for two hours due to low-lying clouds before taking off in bad weather,

the Transportation Safety Board has confirmed.

Five of the passengers — Kyle Adams, Jerry Burns, Ajay Cariappa, Wally Klemens and Matt Sawchenko — were employees of Peter Kiewit Sons, CBC News Online reports. A Finnings employee and a Pacific Coastal Airways pilot have

yet to be identified.

Yesterday, the family of one of the victims attempted to get close to the site but were turned away by RCMP. "I don't think it's something they would want to see," said RCMP Cpl. Peter Thiessen.

The "no fly" zone over the wreckage remains.

Finance plan from G20 to land in March

POLITICS Finance ministers of the Group of 20 leading developed and developing nations will meet by March 31 to follow up on the weekend's Washington summit, a senior Canadian government official said yesterday.

The G20 summit communiqué had committed finance ministers to implement a series of high-priority actions by March 31. It did not specifically mention a ministerial meeting by then, but the official said there would be one.

"G20 finance ministers and officials will be pulling together a concrete work plan by the end of March 2009, so (there will be) a finance ministers meeting by the end of March," said the official, briefing reporters on condition of anonymity. **REUTERS**

G20

- The G20 meeting was to discuss how to deal with the current economic slowdown.

Ontario looks to learn from U.S.

AUTO INDUSTRY Ontario will team up with Ottawa on a visit to Washington to get the "lay of the land" regarding a U.S. bailout of the auto industry.

Noting the expected \$25 billion bailout in the U.S. is "unlikely" this week, Ontario officials stressed urgency and said the fact-finding trip, which may include Detroit, could begin as early as tomorrow. **TORSTAR**

James Blunt **Metro guest editor**



Singer James Blunt reads the copy of Metro Vancouver that he helped edit before performing at G.M. Place in Vancouver last night. The acclaimed musician was the guest editor of more than 100 Metro editions published yesterday around the world.

Asthma misdiagnosed: Study

HEALTH Some 30 per cent of adult Canadians diagnosed with asthma do not actually have the disease, new research out of the University of Ottawa suggests.

That would mean as many as half a million people in Canada are inhaling potentially dangerous steroid medications — and spending hundreds to thousands of dollars a year on them — says Dr. Shawn Aaron, head of respiratory medicine at the

school and the lead study author.

While the study, which appears today in the Canadian Medical Association Journal, did not look at children, there is good reason to believe their numbers are inflated too, Aaron says.

It's estimated that 5 per cent of adult Canadians have asthma and that translates to 500,000 misdiagnoses. **TORSTAR**

safe

- Asthma medications are generally safe Dr. Shawn Aaron said.

News in brief

HALIFAX A Halifax constable and a civilian have pleaded not guilty to brawling during a confrontation between two black men and off-duty police officers outside a bar in Digby. Protests took place after the incident alleging the fight began after racial slurs were hurled.

CRIME The review of Romeo Phillion's Ottawa murder conviction got off to a rocky start yesterday when three Ontario Appeal judges questioned his lawyer's claim evidence was suppressed for more than 25 years. **METRO NEWS SERVICE**

Throne speech to focus on economy

POLITICS Economic tough times are forcing the government to rewrite the script for tomorrow's throne speech, scrapping a "laundry list" of priorities in favour of a speech focused on the financial woes buffeting the nation.

The throne speech that Governor General Michaëlle Jean will deliver tomorrow at 2 p.m. will send a clear signal to MPs and the nation that the economy will be the "dominant" focus of the parliamentary session that resumes today.

"It's less a prescriptive laundry list of policies and actions the government in-

tends to take. It's heavily focused on the economy and less specific on other areas," an aide to Prime Minister Stephen Harper said yesterday.

The aide even conceded that non-economic promises made by the Conservatives in the last campaign would likely take a backseat.

Harper yesterday held a conference call with premiers and territorial leaders to brief them on his weekend discussions at the G20 meeting.

Accelerated infrastructure spending is seen as one remedy by industry experts. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



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Somali pirates have captured a fully laden Saudi supertanker far off east Africa, seizing the biggest vessel ever hijacked with a cargo of oil worth over \$100 million in an attack that pushed world crude prices higher. **REUTERS**

World



Ex-rivals pledge to work together

President-elect Barack Obama, left, and vanquished rival John McCain, far left, met for the first time since the Nov. 4 election yesterday, pledging to work together to face the financial crisis and reduce government waste. The two men were laughing and joking against a backdrop of American flags at Obama's presidential transition headquarters, a far cry from the bitter back and forth they engaged in during the campaign. **REUTERS**

Bolivia 144-million-year-old footprints found



Bolivian farmer Primo Rivera stands in an area called Tunasniyoj where he made a new discovery of dinosaur footprints near Icla on Nov. 16. This discovery is dated by Argentine paleontologists at 144 million years old, and contains some 300 footprints from two types of dinosaurs.

Virgin marriage ruling overturned

A French appeals court yesterday overturned a ruling by a lower tribunal that annulled the marriage of a Muslim woman accused of lying about being a virgin.

The marriage was annulled earlier this year when a court held that the woman had lied over what is called in French law an “essential quality”, in this case her virginity. It ruled that the marriage contract was therefore invalid.

The case sparked outrage from both feminists and human rights activists shocked that a court could consider virginity an “essential quality”. Some politicians also expressed concern that conservative Muslim values were creeping into French law.

Following the public uproar, the government ordered an appeal. The court ruled that virginity

Background

- The couple, a computer specialist in his 30s and a trainee nurse in her 20s, were married in 2006 in the northern French city of Lille, but the husband rejected his wife after discovering on the wedding night that she was not a virgin.

“is not an essential quality in that its absence has no repercussion on matrimonial life.”

It also rejected the argument that by lying about her past love life, the wife had destroyed the mutual confidence needed in a marriage and that this was in itself grounds for annulment. **REUTERS**



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NBA's Cuban charged with insider trading

SEC Mark Cuban, owner of the Dallas Mavericks professional basketball team, was charged with insider trading in shares of Mamma.com Inc, an Internet search engine firm, the Securities and Exchange Commission said yesterday.

Cuban faces civil charges by acting on non-public information and selling his entire stake in Mamma.com to avoid more than \$750,000 US in losses, the SEC alleged.

Cuban, listed by Forbes magazine as one of the 400 richest Americans with an estimated net worth of \$2.6 billion, said he intends to contest the allegations.

On his blog, Cuban said the matter has no merit and is the result of gross abuse of prosecutorial discretion. **REUTERS**



News in brief

FAMILY A 4,600-year-old grave in Germany containing the remains of two adults and their children provides the earliest evidence that even prehistoric tribes attached importance to the family unit, researchers said yesterday.

WILDFIRES Stunned evacuees began returning home yesterday to three areas of southern California ravaged by wildfires, some finding their homes and cars reduced to piles of smoldering, melted rubble.

ACID Students are slowly returning to classes at a Kandahar City girls' school following an attack last week that left several girls with acid burns on their faces.

Inauguration scalpers targeted

TICKETS People trying to sell tickets to Barack Obama's inauguration as the 44th president of the United States may face a fine of up to \$100,000 US or a year in prison, if a U.S. senator has her way.

Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California introduced a bill yesterday that she hopes Congress will pass this week, ahead of Obama's Jan. 20 inauguration. It proposes prohibiting the sale of inaugural tickets.

Some 240,000 tickets are to be made available for free to the public through the offices of senators and congressmen. **REUTERS**

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Comment

Hoping for harmony

Signs pointing to more peaceful Parliament

NationalReport



After five months of downtime, our palace of “dys-function”, as the prime minister called it, reopens today. We recall Parliament was shut down — and an election held — because it got so unruly they were thinking of handing out construction helmets.

The farces piled up. Everything short of bills stipulating new doorknobs for the parliamentary restaurant was declared a vote of confidence. Mini matters, such as an MP viewing his barely-clad girlfriend on his laptop,

became the talk of scandal. The inmates can surely do better than this — and in this 40th parliament there is hope the discord can be turned to harmony. A global economic crisis tends to focus the mind beyond the flimsy.

We have a prime minister who seems less uptight than he was in his first confrontational term, when it was like he was on a baby seal hunt. Stephen Harper met with the premiers last week, making peace around the table. He met with his party flock in Winnipeg and, sounding like he's becoming attuned to the Canadian mainstream, issued a warning against being ideological. He sat down with world leaders in Washington to gain a greater global perspective.

Prior to this, he appointed a new House leader, Jay Hill, who promises to be more accommodating than the last one. He has given his members permission to vote

“We have a prime minister who seems less uptight than he was in his first confrontational term, when it was like he was on a baby seal hunt.”

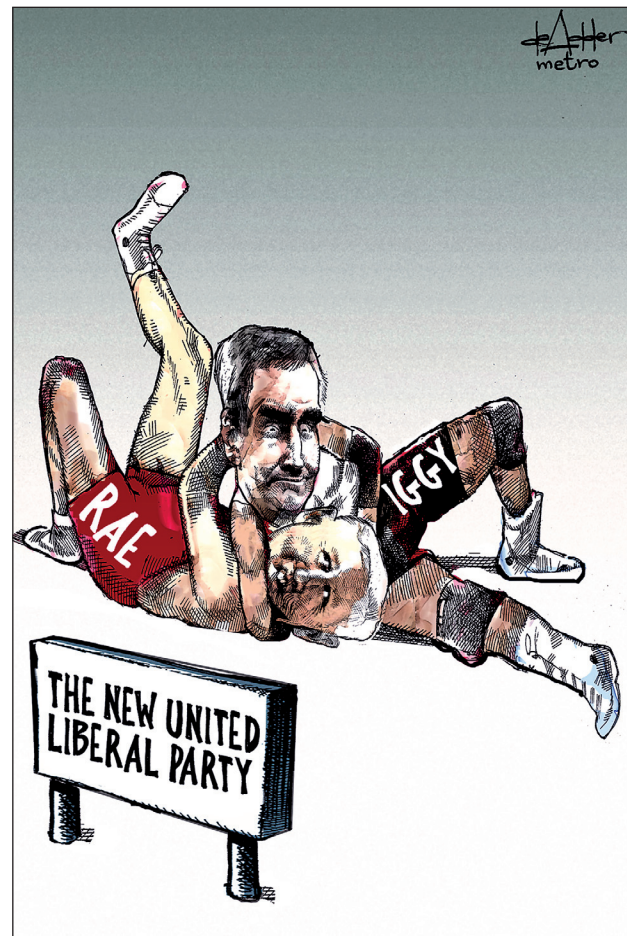
for a new Speaker — the vote is today — to try and replace the current one, Peter Milliken, who has been unable to control the chamber.

The Liberals are in the course of electing a new leader, meaning there should be no attempts to bring down the government for at least a year to come. The opposition parties will rant and rave about the government heading into deficit, but it's a red herring. There's nothing wrong with running a modest deficit, as Mr. Harper has stated, as long as it isn't for the long term.

The example of a new more mature government in the U.S. may spread here and elsewhere. There is a wide sense, given the looming global crisis, that co-operation should replace confrontation. In Washington it was a group of 20 leaders — Paul Martin's original idea — that met instead of the unrepresentative G8. In Afghanistan, the president is inviting the Taliban for peace talks, something our government should be encouraging.

After a first term in which he seemed to spend more time undermining democracy than adorning it, Stephen Harper appears to have moved beyond the point of petty squabbling. Other political leaders in Ottawa will hopefully show the same rational spirit. It's no time for the small stuff.

Lawrence Martin is a Globe and Mail correspondent and author who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.



Letters

Jason Setnyk, CORNWALL, ONT.

Terrorists have thrown acid in the face of freedom. I was horrified by the news that some school children, including young girls, were brutally assaulted and scarred for life.

It is a stark reminder that the job in Afghanistan is not over. From 1996 to 2001, the Taliban ruled, and they eliminated women's rights. The Taliban lost the war in 2001, they lost power, and now a new generation of women has hope.

Attacking these young girls might stop some Afghan parents from sending their children to school. But this brutal assault has shown the world what these thugs stand for. It will only inspire the Afghan people and the troops stationed in Afghanistan to continue fighting hard until the streets are safe, and women there are treated with respect and equality.

Ricardo Di Cecca,
BURLINGTON, ONT.

Re: Portrait of Contempt,
Nov. 13
There is an under-report-

ed reason as to why so few voted on Oct. 14.

The electorate had no viable political party to address today's moral issues. In reality, it remains near impossible to find a party that speaks cogently, eloquently and coherently about matters of penultimate values.

Consider the squandered parliamentary vote on the redefinition of marriage, the run-amok human rights commissions, the divisive naming of an abortionist to the Order of Canada and, most recently, the Harper government's initiative to squelch C-484 (unborn victims protection bill).

When debate is limited and/or avoided, it will always result in stay-at-home, disenfranchised voters.

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Views

Privacy, security go hand in hand

By DR. ANN CAVOUKIAN, PhD

For more than a decade, I have been advancing the concept that technology has the ability not only to encroach upon privacy — but also to protect it. Since the 1990s, I have been advocating that we can eliminate the “zero-sum” game of sacrificing privacy in favour of security — but only if we address how to protect privacy while we are creating new security technologies.

In other words, we must opt for a “positive-sum” scenario wherein privacy and security can both co-exist. In doing so, we enlist technology to protect privacy and safeguard personal information through privacy-enhancing technologies, called PETs.

When applied to technologies of surveillance,

PETs can literally transform a security technology to one that is protective, rather than invasive, of

privacy — hence my term for them: transformative technologies. But this can only happen if privacy is built directly into the architecture of a technology, at the developmental stage. I call this “privacy by design” — embedding privacy into the design specifications of whatever technology is involved.

One example of this is the new Enhanced Drivers' Licences (EDLs) that at least four provinces are developing. Starting next summer, Canadians who are not car-



Dr. Ann Cavoukian

rying a passport must have an enhanced drivers' licence that meets U.S. standards in order to cross the U.S. border. B.C. already has a pilot project under way, and Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec will soon be launching EDL programs. A number of other provinces are considering this. These enhanced drivers' licences must include a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag in order to be accepted at the U.S. border. However, RFID tags are vulnerable to a number of security weaknesses that leave them open to eavesdropping, surveillance and identity theft.

That is why we must prevent the unauthorized disclosure of the information embedded in an RFID chip. Currently, the suggested method for allowing cardholders a measure of privacy is to pro-

vide them with an electronically opaque sleeve, called a Faraday Cage, which would block the transmission of information from the RFID. However, the truth is that most people won't remember to use the sleeve. In my view, the simplest and most elegant solution would be to add an “on/off” switch to the RFID chip. And this is becoming quite feasible. There are already several companies that have successfully developed and tested “on/off” switches for RFID chips.

We can achieve privacy without losing functionality, but only if we lead with privacy and embed it into the design and architecture of all new technologies — a true “win/win” for everyone.

Dr. Ann Cavoukian is the Information and Privacy Commissioner for the province of Ontario.

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: edmontonletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUSA, FERMIN.DESOUSA@METRONEWS.CA

In brief

OIL TransCanada Corp. said it plans to issue up to \$1.16 billion of stock to fund projects like the Keystone oil pipeline. This is the company's second billion-dollar offering in half a year against a backdrop of weak financial markets. TransCanada had earlier said it hoped to secure credit lines instead. **REUTERS**

Online shopping sees quick growth

Online shopping in Canada rose dramatically in the last two years, according to Statistics Canada, but at least one survey shows that trend could reverse this holiday season.

Canadians spent \$12.8 billion online in 2007, the federal agency said yesterday. That's a 61 per cent increase over 2005, Statistics Canada noted. The volume of sales also grew, 40 per cent, to

69.9 million items.

The trend didn't surprise Jim Okamura, a consultant with J. C. Williams Group Ltd.

"We've clearly been seeing this growth happening," Okamura said. Consumers are getting more comfortable with the idea of shopping online and more retailers are competing in the online space, he explained.

However, there are grow-

"My interpretation ... with less cross-border shopping there would be less use of the Internet."

Deloitte & Touche partner, on a recent survey

ing signs that online spending is slowing.

Other forms of shopping are also on the downturn.

The slowdown in spending is a victim of the wider financial and economic

malaise gripping the globe.

Online behemoths Amazon.com and eBay both lowered their fourth-quarter financial forecasts last month citing slowing consumer spending in the U.S., their

biggest market. Both operate in Canada.

One survey, conducted for Deloitte & Touche, showed Canadians planned to do less online shopping this holiday season.

"My interpretation ... with less cross-border shopping there would be less use of the Internet for certain kinds of shopping," said a Deloitte partner.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It through history the great religions have spoken to the return of a future Teacher. The Christians hope for the return of the Christ, the Buddhists look for the coming of a new Buddha, while the Muslims await the Imam Madhi, the Hindus a reincarnation of Krishna and the Jews the Messiah. How will we know Him? Surely He will ring our hearts with a message of sharing, justice and brotherhood. How can we prepare the way for Him? Each day brings opportunities, large and small, to act in favor of unity and justice. Our willingness to share will make a real difference in our world.

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Spain Pro-Tibetan protests



Pro-Tibet demonstrators protest in front of Maritim Museum before the opening ceremony of the Global China Business Meeting in Barcelona yesterday, where business leaders examined the state of the global economy and China's role in warding off a global recession.

Petro-Canada delays \$21B oilsands mine

ENERGY Petro-Canada said yesterday it will delay a final go-ahead for the mining portion of its planned \$21 billion Fort Hills project, looking to the weak economy and falling oil to lower overhead costs that have plagued rival ventures.

The company won't make a decision on proceeding with the mine until next year, as it expects costs to decline as oil sands projects fall by the wayside.

"We can take advantage of the softening market to sharpen our pencils and

drive the costs down," said Neil Camarta, Petro-Canada's senior vice-president, oil sands, on a conference call.

"This is a big undertaking and we need to take the extra time to get it right."

REUTERS

More layoffs, bailouts and recessions

ECONOMY Japan became the latest major economy to fall into recession after European economies, and Citigroup said yesterday it would cut 52,000 jobs, or 15 per cent of its workforce, in one of history's largest layoffs.

Recognizing that the auto industry is bearing the brunt of the global slowdown, the U.S. Senate debated a bailout of American car firms, Germany said it was ready to guarantee funds for General Motors Corp.'s Opel unit, and Japan's Toyota came under ratings scrutiny.

Following the G20's unfruitful weekend meeting, the IMF said it needed at least \$100 billion US in extra funding to fight the crisis.

REUTERS

In brief

TECH Intel began selling its new Core i7 processor Monday, finally matching the lower power consumption and ability to handle multiple tasks offered by competitor Advanced Micro Devices. **REUTERS**

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business 7

Your Money

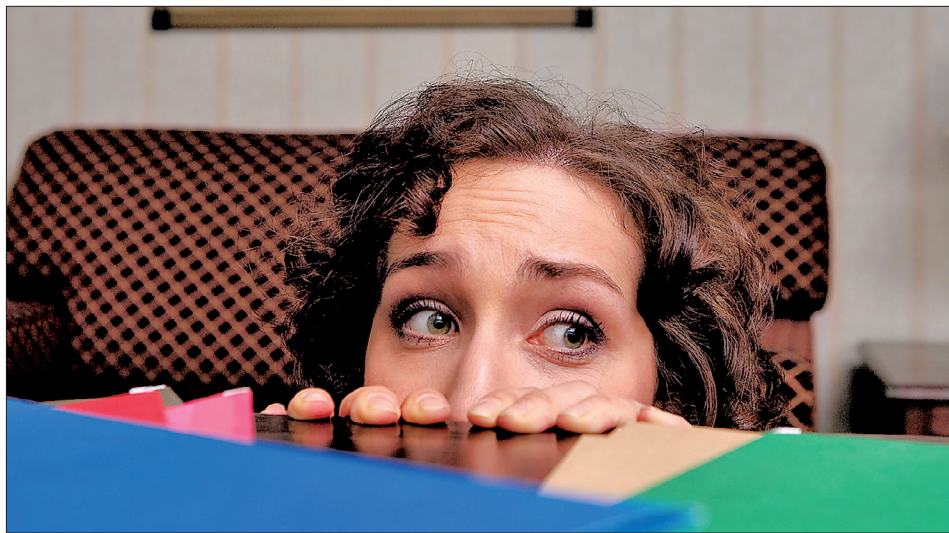
EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Rising from ashes



In recent months, the term “rock bottom” has been closely linked to speculation around our financial markets or even the recent drop in the prices of real estate; however, for the five of us, the expression has a more personal meaning. Fortunately, the outcome of our individual all-time lows turned out to be positive ones.

For Andrea, her financial rock bottom came in her late 20s, several years into her career in marketing. After getting a promotion, she had accumulated close to \$20,000 in consumer debt, the majority of which was spent on designer coffees, stylish jackets and dinners out with



Whether you are lying about money or just lying about the type of life you can afford to live, there are people who can sympathize.

friends. After racking up two credit cards, as well as her line of credit, she soon found herself dodging creditor’s calls at work. But Andrea’s all-time low came when she was asked to go on a work trip to Denver and to expense the flight and hotel on her credit card. Problem was

— she couldn’t.

Katie, a thriving publicist, knew she was in trouble when she found herself anticipating her fiancé’s time on the golf course. Why? Because his golf games translated into four uninterrupted hours of shopaholic spending. On many occasions, Katie

would rack up her credit card with hundreds of dollars in clothes and then scurry around hiding the tags to prevent her future husband from noticing her new purchases.

It was only when her fiancé stumbled across a \$300 price tag for Katie’s 13th pair of designer jeans,

“like the anticipation of a weigh-in, there is nothing like knowing you will have to confess to your impulse purchases at this week’s money group, to prevent you from overspending.”

that she realized she had a problem.

Whether you are lying about money or just lying about the type of life you can afford to live, we have been there. We came, we spent, we delved deep into debt and, for us, salvation finally came in the form of a money group. After finding each other, we made a pact to get out of debt and start living our richest lives; what we were never able to achieve financially as individuals, we were able to do with the support of one another. It wasn’t easy. But if we were able to do it, so can you!

Forming a money group is the simplest way to commit to changing your spending patterns. Just like

the anticipation of a weigh-in, there is nothing like knowing you will have to confess to your impulse purchases at this week’s money group, to prevent you from overspending.

Whether you know people who want to start a money group, or are looking to start one, smartcookies.com offers tools and resources to help you on your way. We may even know of groups in your area that you can join.

If you have a story about your money group or are looking for more money-saving tips, e-mail smartcookies@metronews.ca.

Tune in Wednesday night at 9 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

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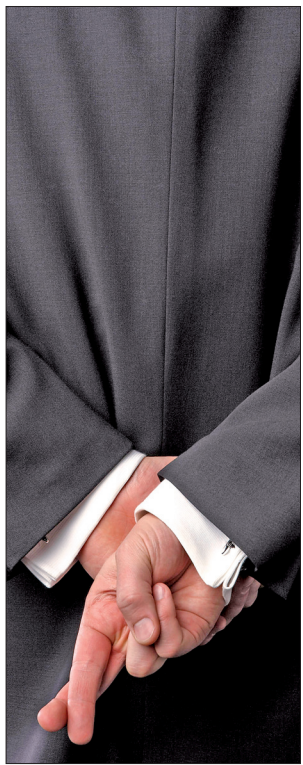
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Scam artists prey upon individuals in times of economic hardship — like now.

Scam sharks smell blood

Beware of deals that are too good to be true

MoneyMatters

Henry Choo Chong



choochonghcg@yahoo.ca

Q I am married with a beautiful six-month baby girl. Several months ago, my wife got laid off from her job. I earn a decent salary but it's very difficult with one income. She would like to start up a small business. We were offered start up capital at 2 per cent interest rate. The broker requires a 10 per cent deposit to secure the financing. Is this a good deal?

Sal

A Canadians should brace themselves for a slowing economy, with difficult times ahead for many businesses and individuals.

In difficult times, individuals should be more diligent. Scam artists prey upon individuals in times

It's never too early for these tax tips in 2009

Looking for tax relief? You are not alone — a recent poll by the Canadian Taxpayers Foundation found

that 65 per cent of Canadians say federal personal income tax rates are too high.

There are some simple steps to ease your tax bill: **Maximize your RRSP** Invest some of your

salary or income in an RRSP, the government will give you a current deduction for that amount and

"If you receive a tax refund from Ottawa, I recommend socking those dollars away in a TFSA and start saving right away."

Dennis Tew, CFO

tax any income when it is withdrawn, rather than when it is earned. Your tax statement from last year will tell you the maximum amount you may contribute to your RRSP for the tax-year ending December 31.

Save for a rainy day with a Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA)

Starting in 2009, you may contribute up to \$5,000 a year to the new Tax-Free Savings Account. Contributions to a TFSA are not tax deductible but the income or gains you earn in the account will be tax-free.

"The TFSA is a great means to supplement your long-term savings plan," said Dennis Tew, chief financial officer of Franklin Templeton Investments Corp. "If you receive a tax refund from Ottawa, I recommend socking those dollars away in a TFSA and start saving right away."

Take advantage of investment losses

Markets can be volatile. It may make sense to sell that money-losing investment, property or asset. The loss can then be used to offset any capital gains you may have incurred from better-performing securities or assets you may own. If net capital losses cannot be used in the current tax year, you may be able to carry them back to recover tax paid in prior years.

Check with the CRA or visit franklintempleton.ca for more tips. NEWS CANADA

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of economic hardship. They have no remorse and do whatever it takes to steal your hard-earned money. They use catchy lines like "Easy money", "No experience needed", "Lots of money for little work."

You already know the

old cliché: If it sounds too good to be true ...

It is illegal to ask for money upfront for a loan, prior to an agreement. Don't be too quick to write a cheque. There are many different fraudulent schemes and scams out there. Some are old, some

new, and others old with a new twist.

Regardless if the face is jolly with a red suit, watch out for some of these fraudulent schemes:

- Loan scams that ask for money in advance of an agreement or the loan
- Identity theft and credit

cards scams

- Billing scams that ask for payment, although no service was performed or goods sold
- Home-based business scams
- Pyramid and MLM schemes that require a fee for recruiting people, not

for selling products

- Charitable donations for computers, developing countries, etc., that offer tax refunds greater than your contributions.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, provides professional accounting and taxation solutions: choochonghcg@yahoo.ca.

Investing

Allan Small



The week's column looks at the market's behaviour. Visit metronews.ca

Gilmour to coach Frontenacs
Former NHL star Doug Gilmour left his post as assistant coach with the AHL's Toronto Marlies to take on head coaching duties with his hometown team, the OHL's Kingston Frontenacs. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA



Pujols wins second MVP

St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Albert Pujols has been named the National League's Most Valuable Player, as voted on by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Pujols, who won this award in 2005 and is a four-time runner-up, garnered 369 points to outdistance Philadelphia first baseman Ryan Howard by 61 points. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Oil blanked by Wings

NHL RESULTS

Red Wings 4 Oilers 0

**VS**

ROBIN BROWNLEE
for Metro Edmonton

THE SKINNY: The Red Wings waltzed into The Joe on a 4-0-1 hot streak and it showed. They dominated, and the scoreboard actually flattered the Oilers, who were outshot 41-21 on the way to their third consecutive loss.

THE QUOTE: "You can't dwell on the things you did poorly," assistant coach Bill Moores said of having to rebound and face the Columbus Blue Jackets tonight. "You have to put this behind you."

THE BIG PLAY: It was 1-0 for the Red Wings when Mikael Samuelsson re-directed a goalmouth feed from Brett Lebda behind Dwayne Roloson to make it 2-0 three minutes into the second period.



Edmonton Oilers center Andrew Cogliano and goalie Dwayne Roloson defend their net against Detroit Red Wings right-winger Johan Franzen during the third period of the Red Wing's 4-0 victory last night in Detroit.

COLLAR FOR CONKY: Former Oiler Ty Conklin got the start for Detroit and upped his record to 5-1-0 with a reasonably leisurely 21-save performance for this fifth career shutout.

came in with the NHL's top-ranked power play and with six goals in their last 14 attempts. It clicked 6:11 into the game when Niklas Kronwall top-shelved a puck on a 5-on-3.

Fernando Pisani when he fell into the boards chasing a puck with Nicklas Lidstrom 5:51 into the third period. The initial diagnosis is Pisani has a fractured left ankle.

including the 5-on-3, the Red Wings were all over the Oilers early on. Not long after Kronwall made it 1-0 for Detroit, the Oilers were being outshot 12-1.

SIZZLING: The Red Wings

BAD BREAK: The Oilers lost

EARLY BLITZ: Aided by a couple of early power plays,

THE NEXT GAME: The Oilers are in Columbus tonight.

Canucks shot down on Long Island

Islanders 2 Canucks 1 (SO)

NHL Frans Nielsen scored the lone goal in the shootout, and the New York Islanders edged the Vancouver Canucks 2-1. Joey MacDonald of Bayview, Pictou Co., stopped 31-of-32 shots for the Isles, who won their third straight after a three-game losing streak. Doug Weight tallied the lone regulation score for New York.

In other action, it was: **BRUINS 3 MAPLE LEAFS 2** — Tim Thomas made 28 saves and withstood a late Toronto surge as the Boston Bruins edged the Maple Leafs 3-2 at Air Canada Centre.

RANGERS 2 SENATORS 1 (SO) — Nikolai Zherdev scored the lone shootout goal and the New York Rangers edged the slumping Ottawa Senators 2-1 at Madison Square Garden.

RED WINGS 4 OILERS 0 — Ty Conklin stopped all 21 shots he faced for his first shutout of the season, and the Detroit Red Wings blanked the Edmonton Oilers 4-0 at Joe Louis Arena.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No favourites in Montreal-Calgary Grey Cup showdown

YorkReport

**Marty York**

marty.york@metronews.ca

The Alouettes lost only two of their 10 home games this season — one of those was a meaningless match in which their all-star quarterback did not play — and yet they are not favoured for Sunday's Grey Cup game in

Montreal. No, the oddsmakers decided yesterday to make the game between the Als and the visiting Calgary Stampeders a pick, meaning bettors will have to lay \$1.10 either way to win a dollar. "If the game were being played at a neutral site, Calgary definitely would be favoured," Canadian handicapper **Randall (The Handle) Steinberg**, who is primarily responsible for establishing point spreads on CFL games, told me yesterday.

"The Stampeders come out of a much tougher division in the West and they didn't get to play the weaker Eastern teams as much as Montreal did. So, in reality, Calgary is the better team. But home-field advantage matters, and Montreal has that, so the game has to be a pick." Actually, the Stamps were one of the only two teams to defeat the Als in Montreal this season — a 23-19 triumph back on July 19. The Als' only other loss in Mon-

trealm was on Oct. 26, when the Winnipeg Blue Bombers defeated them 24-23. That game was meaningless, however, because the Als already had locked up first place in the East and decided to rest QB **Anthony Calvillo**. Calvillo's backup played instead and, well, let's just say **Marcus Brady** is no **Tom Brady**. The Stamps also downed the Als 41-30 in Calgary in September. "We know we can beat Montreal," Stampeders re-

ceiver **Nik Lewis** said. "But we have to be all business. Montreal is a party town but we can't let ourselves get caught up in all the atmosphere." The Stamps also will need to play better than they did last Sunday, when they edged the B.C. Lions 22-18 in the Western final. Other than linebacker **Mike Labinjo**, a Toronton-ian who recorded eight tackles and three sacks, no Calgary player was spectacular.

The Als, on the other hand, turned in a first-rate performance in their Eastern final victory over the Edmonton Eskimos. They weren't even penalized once all game. So you might be inclined to pick Montreal over Calgary this Sunday. Not so fast, though. I'm taking Calgary, and I'll explain why later this week.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

SCOREBOARD			
NHL		AT MONTREAL	
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS Boston 3 Toronto 2 N.Y. Islanders 2 Vancouver 1 (SO) N.Y. Rangers 2 Ottawa 1 (SO) Detroit 4 EDMONTON 0 San Jose 4 Nashville 1	TOMORROW'S GAMES Buffalo at Boston Vancouver at N.Y. Rangers Washington at Anaheim	Calgary vs. Montreal	Sacramento at Memphis Milwaukee at Denver Chicago at L.A. Lakers Portland at Golden State
TONIGHT'S GAMES Minnesota at Pittsburgh Montreal at Carolina EDMONTON at Columbus Florida at Tampa Bay Chicago at Phoenix Colorado at Calgary	CIS FOOTBALL VANIER CUP SATURDAY, NOV. 22 AT HAMILTON, ONT. Western Ontario vs. Laval	NBA YESTERDAY'S RESULTS Houston 100 Oklahoma City 89 Phoenix at Utah San Antonio at L.A. Clippers	NFL YESTERDAY'S RESULTS Cleveland 29 Buffalo 27
	CFL GREY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY, NOV. 23	TONIGHT'S GAMES Toronto at Orlando Atlanta at Indiana Miami at Washington Dallas at Charlotte New York at Boston Cleveland at New Jersey	WEEK 12 THURSDAY'S GAME Cincinnati at Pittsburgh SUNDAY'S GAMES N.Y. Jets at Tennessee MONDAY'S GAME Green Bay at New Orleans

Sports in brief

BASEBALL The New York Yankees have sold the contract of pitcher Darrell Rasner to a team in Japan's Central League, according to a report by ESPN. The report states that the contract was sold to the Tohoku Rakuten Golden Eagles for \$1 million, and Rasner is expected to sign a two-year contract with the team.

BASEBALL The San Francisco Giants signed left-handed relief pitcher Jeremy Affeldt to a two-year contract yesterday. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed. Affeldt went 1-1 with a 3.33 earned run average in a club-high 74 appearances for Cincinnati last season.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Health



Smoking may worsen PMS

Here's another reason not to smoke, if you're a woman: PMS. Women 27 to 44 years old who smoke are twice as likely to develop premenstrual syndrome over the next two to four years, especially hormonally-related symptoms like backaches, bloating, breast tenderness, and acne, Dr. Elizabeth R. Bertone-Johnson of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and her colleagues found.

REUTERS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Coughing irks colleagues: Poll



Sixty-two per cent of us admit we go to work with a cold and cough, a recent survey suggests.

CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada

The guy in the next cubicle sounds like he's hacking up a lung. Annoying, eh? But, guess what? Next time you have a cough, you'll probably go to work too.

Cadbury, the makers of Halls menthol-lyptus cough drops, did a survey of 1,000 Canadians to tickle out their feelings about coughing. One amusing result was that while 68 per cent of us are irritated by people coming to work sick, 62 per cent of us admit that we also go to work with a cold and cough.

The older we are, the

crankier we get about coughing co-workers. More people aged 35 to 54 are bothered (80 per cent) than the more carefree folks aged 18 to 34 (55 per cent).

While there's not much we can do about other people's hacking, there are ways to diminish our own coughing fits. "You can have some control and shorten the duration of your cough," says Dr. Brian Levine, medical director of The Cough Centre in Orange County, Calif. Here are his tips for the four stages of a cough:

1) First stage You feel a heavy head, you're dragging. Your throat is itchy. You have a clearing-your-throat-type cough. "This

is the most infectious stage," says Dr. Levine. "And also the stage you can do the most about." Dial down your schedule to help you fight off infection. Get lots of rest, drink fruit juices, and increase antioxidant intake by eating more fruits and vegetables.

2) Second stage You are actually getting the cold. You're sneezing and have a scratchy throat. This is a dry-sounding cough, which comes in short bursts. It's infectious. "Get lots of sleep. Drink lots of fluids to hydrate and loosen secretions and flush out toxins," says Dr. Levine.

3) Third stage Now you have a sore throat and con-

gestion; you may have fever and chills. This cough is "deep and loud and wet and distracting" and is the one that most irritates co-workers. It is still infectious. Use saline nasal rinses twice a day and use a warm steam vapourizer at night. Don't exercise. "Mellow out. Take it easy and build up your endorphins. Read a good book. Listen to great music."

4) Final stage You are feeling better, but still have a tight cough with a wheeze at the end. This cough is not infectious. Emphasize protein in your diet. Get back to exercising, especially stretching and strengthening. Do deep breathing exercises.

Calling all game widows

The J Spot

Josey Vogels

Sex talk with Josey

The tragic death of Ontario's Brandon Crisp — who died after running away from home after a gaming argument — has raised serious concerns about teens and online gaming. But parents aren't the only ones struggling. If you've heard the phrase, "Five more minutes, hon" one too many times from your beloved, you may have come to be known as a 'Game Widow.' And the consequences can be equally serious.

Game Widow author Wendy Kays tells me about one couple in which the husband was a stay-at-home dad, except his obsessive online gaming habit left little time for parenting. Through the game he met a female avatar (your online character) and married her online, convinced he wasn't cheating because it was only a game. When his teenage son discovered this, his father told him not to tell mom, showering the boy with gifts and attention

to keep him quiet. The son eventually attempted suicide.

With the explosion of MMORPG's (multiple massive online role-playing games, like Second Life and World of Warcraft), the

number of online gamers is growing, ergo, the number of Game Widows. Only about 10 to 20 per cent of those who play these games become obsessed, but considering that World of Warcraft alone has about 10 million players worldwide, based on population statistics, there are probably one million Game Widows for that one game alone. "And that's low balling it," says Kays.

How do you know if your partner has a problem? "It's hard to put a number on it. In fact, some people like that their partner spends so much time online because it frees them up to do what they want. I say that if you are emotionally involved with a game you've never played, you're a Game Widow," says Kays.

The biggest problem with these games is something Kays refers to as "the glue," that is, the aspect of

these games that gets men and women players emotionally involved. "You have a unique persona and relationships with other people in a fantasy world you control, that may feel more fulfilling than your real life."

And having a partner constantly at you to stop often only succeeds in pushing them deeper into their feel-good world.

Kays, a former Game Widow herself, suggests instead that you disengage with the person and the activity. "Don't bring them food or take care of their chores while they play, and stop apologizing or making excuses when they don't show up for family events or call in sick for work because they'd rather be gaming."

Then, map out a "game time" and "you time" calendar together. "When we did it, I stopped nagging because I knew my time was on the calendar," says Kays. "And he realized he wanted to play more than he had estimated, which was an eye opener for him."

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

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Rowling to give book proceeds to orphans

Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling hopes to make \$30 million US for orphaned children with the profits from her new book. The writer will hand the proceeds from *The Tales Of Beedle The Bard* to the Children's High Level Group, which provides support for parentless kids in Eastern Europe. **IMDB.COM**

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Entertainment

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

**Model host**

Jay Manuel will be back as host for the next season of Canada's Next Top Model on CTV. Auditions for contestants continue until Dec. 22. Information at model.ctv.ca.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Serena Ryder is doing OK

Singer-songwriter blends soulful vocals with folk and rock sounds

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

When Serena Ryder won the Juno Award for Best New Artist in April, many were left scratching their heads.

"They probably think I'm a lot more talented than I actually am!" Ryder says, laughing.

Surely, it was not in criticism of Ryder's deservedness of the accolade. But to them, her name was nothing new at all. She's just one member of a group of underrated Canadian female singer/songwriters, which also includes Emm Gryner, Damhnait Doyle and Esther.

Ryder may have been active in the Canadian music industry for years before nabbing the Juno, but in collecting the honour, the 25-year-old found opportunity for self-renewal.

"That's kind of a global desire to have that newness in the world, to feel like you're starting over again and to have a fresh start," she says. "I think it's amazing that they believe I'm at the beginning of my career. That gives me the inspiration to go a lot further."

While the acknowledgement wasn't needed, it did reassure her that the industry was finally becoming more receptive of her. "It's given me that feeling inside my belly that I feel like I have the support be-



Serena Ryder won the Juno for Best New Artist earlier this year. Her new album *Is It OK* is now out.

hind me," she says. "That's one of the most important things, as a human in this world, to have that sup-

port and know your peers and family are all behind you."

That level of endorse-

ment resulted in the emotionally fitful soul bearing contained on *Is It O.K.*, Ryder's new studio album.

"That pain is an important part of our lives. A lot of this record was me allowing that pain to come out and to be present in the process."

Serena Ryder

With her indefinably strong but savoury vocals and guitar-led folk rock instrumentation, Ryder says she was able to release the pain she was feeling, which she says is typically suppressed by most.

"That pain is an important part of our lives. A lot of this record was me allowing that pain to come out and to be present in the process."

Her lead single, *Little Bit of Red*, exemplifies that liberation. At the height of the song's chorus, Ryder sings, "Your black and white needs a little bit of red," reflecting on her frustration with constant human urge for self-definition in order to feel comfort.

"I like to think of the line as maybe even bleeding a little bit," she says. "The song is really about trying to fit yourself into those boxes and using those boxes as excuses for a lot of your fears. But humans are multi-faceted beings. There's never one thing that can define us."

Seal covers Soul classics on new disc

MUSIC A "collective consciousness" that led to the election of Barack Obama is what Seal inspired

Seal to record his latest single, a cover of Sam Cooke's *A Change Is Gonna Come*, and the other R&B covers on the British singer's new Soul album.

"The initial inspiration came from what I perceived to be a collective consciousness of people," Seal told *Billboard*.

Seal recorded *A Change Is Gonna Come* with David Foster and filmed a video for the song "that we were just going to put out on the Internet ... And then David saw the video and said, 'Look, this is incredible. We can't stop here. You just have to keep going,' and so we did. Three weeks later, we had an album." **REUTERS**

Latest Bond rules global box office

MOVIES The latest James Bond thriller dominated the box office in much of the world during the weekend, boosted by a record opening in North America.

Quantum of Solace sold \$70.4 million US worth of tickets in its first three days of release across the United States and Canada.

The new film also earned \$56.1 million in 73 countries during the weekend, for a foreign total of \$251.6 million. **REUTERS**

**WiiMusic**

Published: Nintendo

Rated: E

Released: Oct. 20

Score: ●●

control schemes to play (horn, percussion, guitar and violin). No need to worry about hitting a wrong note: The Wii chooses them for you. But that's exactly the problem: The strong autopilot gives you no real incentive to play — you're just waving the remote and nunchuck around in time to the downbeats. Add a shortlist of unlockable songs as tepid as the game-play and the game wears out its welcome quickly.



EVER WANTED to play a game of lawn darts without having to physically drag your butt out to the backyard to do it? Your ship has come in: A triumph of lethargy, *Game Party 2* collects 11

GamePicks**Game Party 2**

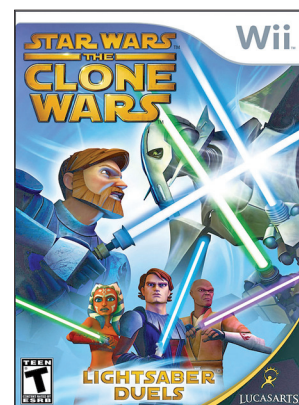
Published: Midway

Rated: E

Released: Oct. 6

Score: ●●

basic events for the casual player such as horseshoes, hoop shots and Skee-Ball. The controls are more or less the same for every event — hold A, throw and release. The games amuse for about five minutes until you finally conclude you could do this for real and get some actual exercise and fresh air.



YOU USE your Wii remote as you would an actual lightsaber, swinging and thrusting as you battle your way through the Clone Wars.

You've also got force at-

Star Wars: The Clone Wars — Lightsaber Duels

Published: Lucasarts

Rated: T

Released: Nov. 11

Score: ●●●½

tacks, the ability to throw objects at your opponent, and special combos depending on which character you use.

The action is heavy, but the violence is relatively light — making this one a perfect choice this Christmas for the boy, whether he's seven years old or 28 and still living in your basement.

BRIAN TOWIE/METRO CANADA

MUCH LIKE the runaway hit *Guitar Hero* or other rhythm-based games, *WiiMusic* relies on keeping the beat. Choose over 60 instruments that require mimicking one of four different

School won't always prepare us for life

HineSight

Anne Hines



I think I've learned a very important life lesson. No one can teach you what you really need to know. When my younger daughter, Becky, went to university this fall, her dad and I hoped she'd learn many useful things. Ideally, some of it would be in the classroom.

So far Becky has shared that she now knows mixing shooters with beer is a bad idea. And, if you leave a pizza unattended in the co-ed lounge while you go grab a Coke, you're going to have to learn to live with disappointment.

Becky has learned a few academic lessons as well. Unlike high school, she no longer leaves her classwork for the night before it's due. University libraries are open 24-hours. Now she leaves it until the morning it's due.

To be fair, I recall learning some less-than-useful things when I was in college. In a first year philosophy course, our main exam question was, "There is a chair in a room. If you leave the room, does the chair still exist?" We were asked to list what possible questions this concept poses. My answers included, "If you're not in the room, who cares if the chair is still there?" and, "Is the

chair facing a television?" Needless to say, I did not do particularly well on that test. I did get a marginally better grade than my classmate who asked, "Is there a matching ottoman?"

These days I'm back at university studying to be a United Church minister. Once again, I've realized that what we learn in a classroom doesn't always prepare us for real life. What I've come to believe about religious texts is, if they leave you feeling you have all the answers, you're probably not asking yourself the right questions.

My school work assignment is being student pastor in an end of life care hospital.

The first day, I broke a light in the lounge, set off the medic alarm in five separate rooms and almost lost a patient down a ramp as I attempted to fix his wheelchair brake.

A nurse called me over as I was leaving. "These people are dying already, honey," she said gently. "They don't need your help."

When it comes to Becky's life, or mine, perhaps no school can teach us what we really need to know.

So, how will we achieve the wisdom we need? By living.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

Hollywood out of touch with U.S. morals: Poll

Most Americans believe that Hollywood is out of step and doesn't share their moral values, according to a new poll.

Sixty-one per cent of people surveyed in the poll commissioned by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) said that religious values in America are under attack.

And nearly 60 per cent of the 1,000 adults questioned agreed that the people who run the TV networks and the major movie studios do not share the religious and moral values of most Americans.

"These findings point to the challenges that we face in dealing with issues of religion in society," said Abraham H. Foxman, the national director of the

ADL.

The belief that religion is under attack underlies the drive to incorporate more religion into American public life. "Disturbingly, 43 per cent of Americans believe there is an organized campaign by Hollywood and the national media to weaken the influence of religious values in this country," he added in a statement.

The poll, conducted by the Marttila Communications Group, also showed that 61 per cent of people agree that religious values are under attack in this country, compared to 36 per cent who disagree.

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2

"Amazing, remarkable chemistry and better than the original!"

- Mark S. Allen, THE CW NETWORK/SACRAMENTO

Own it now on DVD and Blu-ray Hi-Def



New American Idol season, new rumours

PROVING A NEGATIVE: American Idol begins in a couple of months, which means it's time for the annual Paula — nuts or toast? rumours. They've begun right on

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis



rick.mcginis@metronews.ca

schedule, with a denial by her publicist (there's a job you'd take only if the alternative was incurable cancer) published in the Los Angeles Times, in response to a rumour that apparently started with OK magazine before gaining traction on Perez Hilton's website.

Excuse me for a second while I ponder this dubious chain of information.

(It's the sort of questionable authority that would make me doubt basic laws of physics should they confidently report on rumours of gravity or photosynthesis in action.)

"It's absolutely untrue,"

It's a tactic somewhere up there with the fundraisers... telling you that the alma mater will cease to be if you don't write a cheque now.

said Abdul's publicists in response to the story that she was leaving the show, though a further rumour was offered up by a nameless source that it was a ploy by Abdul to renegotiate her contract.

From where I'm sitting, it's a tactic somewhere up there with the fundraisers at your old school telling you that the alma mater will cease to be if you don't write a cheque now.

Another rumour proved untrue was the one that NBC had cancelled Lipstick Jungle, which had prompted fans of the show to start sending the network — get ready for it — tubes of lipstick in protest.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

Trailer boys will soon say goodbye

The Trailer Park Boys will soon be no more.

After seven successful seasons, the cult favourite Canadian mockumentary TV series set in a fictional Nova Scotia trailer park is coming to an end in the fall of next year.

Creator Mike Clattenburg broke the news in a blog posting on the Showcase website. There will be a one-hour

TV special on Showcase Sunday, Dec. 7 at 11 p.m., followed by a sequel to their hit movie which will hit Canadian theatres in

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

October, 2009.

But after that, it's so long to Ricky, Julian, Bubbles and the rest of the Sunnyvale gang.

"Yes, it's the end of Trailer Park Boys," Clattenburg wrote on his blog. "Our fans have been so supportive and inspiring that we wanted you to be the first to know."

Trailer Park Boys became the highest-rated Canadian show on specialty TV in 2004, and that same year, also won the Gemini Award for Best Comedy Series. In 2005, it won the Gemini for comedy's Best Ensemble Performance.

The first film was nominated for a Genie in 2006. The working title for its sequel is Countdown To Liquor Day.

Twilight star set for indie drama

MOVIES Twilight bad guy Cam Gigandet and Jena Malone are starring in the indie drama Five Star Day. The film is a journey of self-discovery about a guy (Gigandet) who loses everything and must come to terms with what's most important. Malone plays his girlfriend. The project comes from writer/director Danny Buday. Gigandet plays a merciless vampire in Twilight.

Paul may release new Beatles track

MUSIC An unreleased, experimental track by The Beatles could be made public 41 years after it was recorded, ex-member Paul McCartney has said. McCartney, one of the band's two surviving members, told BBC Radio that Carnival of Light was The Beatles at their most free. He confirmed that he had a master tape of the track, which many fans assumed was a piece of musical myth.

REUTERS

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GlobalStyle



Kenya Hunt

Mainstream purchases can pack DIY punch, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

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POINTS

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DVD picks



WALL-E

Director: **Andrew Stanton**
Rating: **G**

IN THE FIRST half-hour, when barely a recognizable human word is heard, and the camera moves restlessly over a devastated Earthly landscape circa 2700, you might think you're about to be schooled in an animated version of Al Gore's vision of the environmental apocalypse.

But you'd be wrong. Far from being a downer diatribe on our worst human follies, Pixar's latest gem is a love story. WALL-E (Waste Allocation Load Lifter Earth-class), the little robot who could, has been cleaning up the Earth for hundreds of

years after the last human has left following a global disaster. He cheerfully compacts trash into cubes before stacking them up.

Aside from his little cockroach friend, he's alone and often lonely. That is, until a sleek white bot named EVE shows up to search for some extra-terrestrial vegetation to evaluate.

WALL-E is a goggle-eyed rust-pot with treads for feet and a big thumping mechanical heart; he's R2-D2 and E.T. smashed into one irresistible mobile love machine. A delight for both children and adults alike.

Extras include deleted scenes, humorous shorts about the film's fantasy BnL corporation, a featurette about the history of Pixar and Presto, the superb animated short that preceded theatrical screenings.

Tropic Thunder

Director: **Ben Stiller**
Rating: **14A**

THE HIGH CONCEPT OF this Hollywood parody is

not exactly a triumph of originality: A group of prima donna actors filming a Vietnam War epic in the jungles of Southeast Asia suddenly find themselves in a real war, courtesy of drug-smuggling guerrillas who don't appreciate visits. Hilarity, and a canon-nade of profanity ensue.

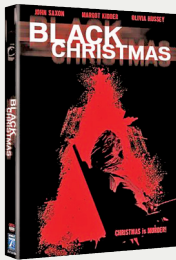
The actors — the troupe includes Robert Downey Jr., Ben Stiller, Jack Black, Tom Cruise, Matthew McConaughey and Nick Nolte — are all trying to one-up each other for outrageous characterizations, both for fun and for real, and here's where Tropic Thunder gets interesting.

You can view this movie on several levels. At its most basic, it's rude war satire. At its most cerebral, it's group therapy for actors who really are prima donnas. In between, it's a gross-out contest involving fart gags, drug abuse and cruel humour about "homos" and "retards."

If you're offended by Tropic Thunder, well, you're supposed to be. But you're also supposed to laugh at how shrewd it is

about being offensive. Don't worry if that's confusing; there's plenty of company up there on the screen.

The DVD offers more to like and/or to get your knickers knotted over, especially in the abundance of deleted and extended scenes, including an alternate ending. There are also director and cast commentaries and several making-of featurettes, including one aptly titled, Blowing S#%t Up.



Murder by Decree

Director: **Bob Clark**

Black Christmas

Director: **Bob Clark**

A LITTLE BIT OF Canada died along with Bob Clark last year, when an auto

tragedy claimed the life of the filmmaker, 67, and his son Ariel, 22.

Always "Bob" and never "Robert," Clark was one of Canada's most successful moviemakers, although he wasn't Canadian by birth. Born in New Orleans and reared in Florida, he came to Toronto in the early 1970s.

He made a splash with Black Christmas in 1974, the horror film often credited as the first of the slasher genre.

He moved upscale in 1979 with the Sherlock Holmes thriller Murder by Decree, a film faithful to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's refined vision. It starred Christopher Plummer and James Mason and won Clark the director's prize at the Genie Awards.

Both films are being newly reissued this week by Anchor Bay, the first time on DVD for Murder by Decree, and there are beaucoups extras. It's a chance to see both sides of the artful populist who also made Porky's and A Christmas Story.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

critics' corner

Rabbit Fall

In this new episode, Tara and Zoe (Andrea Menard, Tinsel Korey) discover the dead body of a girl in the woods. It turns out that this particular part of the forest is sacred and has some dangerous powers. Tara strongly suspects that Simon Blackhorse (Patrick Bird) is responsible for the girl's death when she finds out he sent her there for a traditional berry fast. 8 PM on SPACE



NCIS

In this new episode, Gibbs (Mark Harmon) and the team are forced into a war game that not only proves dangerous but reveals a shocking secret — but these folks are no strangers to big revelations in "Cloak." 9 PM on KREM

The Tudors

As Henry (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) gets some unhappy news, tempered by an enjoyable encounter, Anne (Natalie Dormer) fears that the continuing presence of her predecessor (Maria Doyle Kennedy) is a threat to her position. Fear spreads through the Catholic Church as well. 9 PM on CBXT

FD	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
11/18/08	2	CFRN	239 318	etalk	Hollywood	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		Dancing With the Stars		News (N)
	3	KHQ	- 370	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	The Biggest Loser: Families (N)				Law/Ord SVU
	4	CBXT	- 307	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	The Tudors		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors		NCIS "Cloak" (HDTV) (N)		The Mentalist (HDTV) (N)		Without Trace
	7	CKEM	241 347	Law & Order: SVU		Privileged (HDTV) (N)		Rita Rocks	Rita Rocks	Hates Chris	Friends	Your City
	8	CITV	240 339	ET Canada	Entertainment	90210 (HDTV) (N)		House "Emancipation"		(10:01) Kitchen Nightmares		News Hour
	12	CBXFT	119 705	Virginie (SC)	La Factice	Providence (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Roxy (N) (SC)	Filantes	Le Téléjournal (N) (SC)		TJ Alberta
	13	KXLY	- 371	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Dancing With the Stars		Dancing With the Stars		Eli Stone
	16	KAYU	- 373	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Emancipation"		(10:01) Fringe (N)		News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	The Insider (N)	E! News	The Best Years (DVS)		The Biggest Loser: Families (N)				News (N)
news	22	KSPS	- 374	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Nova "The Bible's Buried Secrets" (HDTV) (N) (DVS)		Independent Lens (N)		Independent Lens (N)		Crossroads
	24	WTVS	- 364	(6) Nova (N) (DVS)		Independent Lens "Lioness" (N)		Summer Wine		Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N)	
	15	CBCCN	502 -	CBC News: The National		Fixing My Brain (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		My Brain
	21	TWN	505 398	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two				
	27	CNN	500 500	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
sports	54	CTVN	501 391	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	70	BNN	504 508	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Business News	Squeeze Play
	20	TSN	400 400	NHL Hockey	SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre	In This Corner	Boxing Jeff Lacy vs. Jermain Taylor.		
	23	net	408 418	NHL Hockey	NHL Hockey Colorado Avalanche at Calgary Flames. (HDTV) (Live)					Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Best-Sports
	47	SPEED	417 406	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Unique Whips	Hot Import	2010 Mustang Reveal		Low Life	Low Life	Super Bikes!
family	94	SCORE	410 403	Basketball	Score Tonight	Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		Final Score	Final Score	Sports Rage
	9	EDACC	267 351	Help TV		(8:02) Eli Stone (N)		Pushing Daisies (N)		(10:01) Fringe (N)		Help TV
	14	YTV	552 543	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Improve.	Malcolm-Mid.	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
	17	TREE	553 546	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears	Babar	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	42	TOON	555 545	6teen	Total Drama	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show	Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	American Dad	
cable variety	45	FAM	557 541	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School
	-	TVA	121 714	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Occupation	Vidéos	Histoires-filles	Caméra café	La Promesse (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures
	18	CMT	575 583	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Dallas Cheerleaders		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba
	25	A&E	615 520	The First 48 (HDTV)		The Rookies	The Rookies	Jacked: Theft	Jacked: Theft	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48
	26	MMM	571 581	Popaganda "Sellebrity"		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Party of Five "MYOB"		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Party of Five
	29	FOOD	603 561	The F Word (N)		Chef School	At the Table	Restaurant Makeover		Challenge		The F Word
	31	SHOW	617 522	EastEnders	Vivienne Vyle	About a Girl	About a Girl	The Best Years (DVS)		Testees	Trailer Park	The Shield
	32	DISC	520 505	Destroyed	Destroyed	Dirty Jobs		Daily Planet		Destroyed	Destroyed	Dirty Jobs
	33	SLICE	601 562	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Tori & Dean: Home		Wedding SOS	In Laws	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Tori & Dean
	34	W	602 567	House	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	How to Look Good Naked		Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Good Naked
	35	TLC	521 560	Mystery Diagnosis		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		My Shocking Story		Mystery Diagnosis		Med. Examiner
	36	BRAVO	620 523	Each Day		The Bravo! Concert Hall		Law & Order "Killerz"		Without a Trace		Bravo! Concert
	38	SPIKE	628 584	UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed		MANswers (N)	MANswers	CSI: NY (HDTV)		CSI: NY
	40	HIST	522 506	Ax Men		NCIS "Doppelganger"		Crime Stories		Ax Men		Worst Jobs
	41	COM	626 547	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	S. Silverman
	43	SPACE	627 528	Battlestar Galactica		Rabbit Fall (N)	The Circuit	Stargate SG-1		Lost "Lockdown"		Deep Space 9
	44	WPCH	294 650	(6) The Mighty Ducks		Steve Harvey	Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld	The Mighty Ducks ★★ (1992, Comedy)		
	46	OLN	411 457	Angry Planet	Flying Doctor	Which Way to...		Pilot Guides		Don't Forget Your Passport		Survivorman
	48	TROP	619 525	Planet Soap	Big Screen	Beverly Hills, 90210		Planet Soap	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	50	STAR	621 527	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		Paris Hilton's My New BFF		TMZ	etalk	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		Hollywood
	52	HGTV	600 564	Sarah's House	Design Inc.	Colin & Justin's Home Heist		Holmes on Homes		Sarah's House	Design Inc.	Pure Design
	65	TLN	700 800	48 Ore		Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez	George Lopez	The Sopranos (SS)		David Rocco
	92	APTN	269 350	Wings-Canada	Great Towns	Wapos Bay (N)	Rez Rides	Fish Out of	Mixed Blessing	First Nation	Rabbit Fall (N)	Moccasin Flats
	93	VISION	261 394	Quantum Leap		Jonestown Paradise Lost	Leo Ryan's fatal journey. (N)			Bless-Father	On the Buses	Quantum Leap
	100	MTV	581 566	Paris Hilton's My New BFF		Paris Hilton's My New BFF		MTV Live	After	Man and Wife	The Hills	Paris Hilton
	101	MM	570 580	You Can Dance		Dance	On Set: Girl	MuchTopTens		Pimp My Ride	disBand	Technical Diff.
	102	CPAC	512 396	(6:30) Headline Politics			Revue	Question Period		Prime.-Politics	Headline Politics	
	103	VIVA	526 507	The West Wing		Encounters	In Dreams	Psychic Inv.	Encounters	Judging Amy		Commander
	105	TV5	145 761	Himalaya	Suisse	Champ. nature	Humanima	Journal TV5	Les Carnets du bourlingueur		Club social	
	106	RDI	126 730	Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct		Le National	Le Téléjournal (SC)	Le Journal RDI	Le National	Le Téléjournal

Celebrity Buzz

Pam goes punk as Westwood model

MODELLING Former Baywatch beauty Pamela Anderson will replace her famous red swimsuit with more offbeat attire — she is to model for punk fashion designer Vivienne Westwood, imdb.com says.

The actress has reportedly signed a six-figure deal to be the face of British designer Westwood's spring/summer range next year.

A source tells Britain's Mail On Sunday newspaper, "Vivienne and a team of stylists and photographers jetted to Los Angeles last week to shoot Pammie in the new campaign."

"She met Vivienne at one of her parties last year and they hit it off. Vivienne loves the quirkiness of having Pam in one of her campaigns."

Westwood's outrageous designs became popular with Britain's punk rock bands in the 1970s.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Straight Lindsay set to leave Sam?

RELATIONSHIPS Lindsay Lohan is reportedly set to split from girlfriend Samantha Ronson — because she has realized she is not gay, imdb.com reports.

The pair sparked gossip about the extent of their friendship when they were spotted kissing and cuddling in Cannes, France, earlier this year.

Now it is claimed Lohan is getting tired of Ron-

son's constant presence — and is starting to question her own sexuality.

A source tells British newspaper the News of the World, "Linds is on the brink because Sam won't leave her side. Whenever she does, Lindsay's on the phone telling her mates she's decided she's not a lesbian."

"Of course she still has feelings for Sam — but she also feels like she has to escape."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Kidman superstitious over her marriage

RELATIONSHIPS Nicole Kidman is so determined to make her marriage to Keith Urban last, she "touches wood" every day for good luck, imdb.com reports.

The Oscar-winning actress wed the country singer in June 2006, and they had their first child together — daughter Sunday Rose — in July.

But the Moulin Rouge star insists she and her husband have to work hard at their marriage if it is going to last the distance.

Kidman tells USA Today newspaper, "We're both willing to move mountains to make it work and, with that, you still touch wood. You commit to it and say, 'Whatever we can do that's hu-

manly possible, we're going to do.' And that's it."

"I don't take any of it for granted. To have love again is a beautiful thing."

Kidman divorced first husband Tom Cruise in 2001. The pair has two children together: Isabella and Connor.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Beckinsale won't keep it casual

RELATIONSHIPS Kate Beckinsale refuses to dress down as she believes it would ruin her marriage, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Pearl Harbor star hates going without make-up when she isn't working because she thinks her husband, director Len Wiseman, "would be a bit upset if I did."

"It's nice to feel like you're wooing the other person a bit, as once it degenerates into wearing yesterday's sweatpants and farting on the sofa, you lose a bit of the spice," she said.

"You've got to keep up the seduction phase — it's fun."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Kiefer to move for N.Y. girlfriend

RELATIONSHIPS 24 star Kiefer Sutherland is planning to move to New York city from California, so he can be closer to his journalist girlfriend, Allure magazine style director Siobhan Bonnouvier, imdb.com reports.

And, he can't wait to live in New York: "There's a sexiness to the people here that's extraordinary."

Everybody's full of purpose. No one's just f—king around."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Taylor hopes to become Dr. Swift

PLANS Teen star Taylor Swift has another career in mind if she tires of singing country music — she hasn't let go of her dreams of becoming a surgeon, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 18-year-old singer clings to hopes of a career in medicine, after being named her high school's best dissector in biology class.

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Willis' independent streak

CAREER Hollywood newcomer Rumer Willis refused to take any favours from her famous parents, so she could make it as an actress in her own right, imdb.com reports.

The daughter of divorced Hollywood power couple Bruce Willis and Demi Moore was determined to carve out her own career, without being accused of benefiting from her parents' connections.

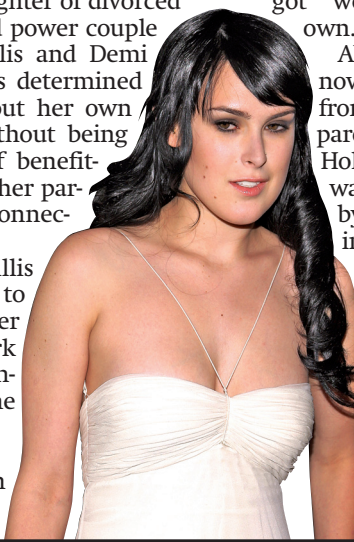
And Willis is starting to make her own mark on the industry; she recently landed roles in The House

Bunny and forthcoming film Wild Cherry.

Dad Bruce says, "She sat us down and said, 'I know you two think you're big shots, but I don't want any help.' And she went off and got work on her own."

Although she now refuses help from her famous parents, Willis' Hollywood career was kick-started by appearances in their films, including Moore's Striptease, and with father Bruce in The Whole Nine Yards and Hostage.

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Is Ferrara 'special person' to Sigler?

DATING Former Sopranos star Jamie-Lynn Sigler has hinted rumours she is dating Entourage star Jerry Ferrara are true, imdb.com reports.

Sigler refuses to confirm they are dating, but says, "He is a special person."

But the star admits her pickiness makes it hard to date: "It takes a lot for me to even want to kiss someone. I have to have a connection and those are rare for me."

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Idol girlfriend calms Cook

RELATIONSHIPS Amid all the American Idol craziness, last year's champ David Cook finds peace and perspective with the help of girlfriend and former Idol contestant Kimberly Caldwell, People.com reports.

"She's a nice break from the chaos," he says.

Just don't ask if they like to do duets. "No, we don't," says Cook.

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GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS



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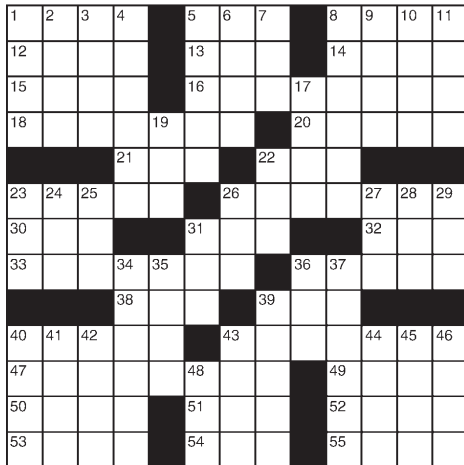


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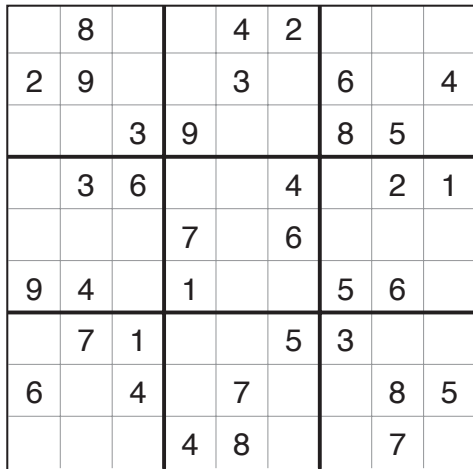
Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host - Breakfast Television

"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes!" **WEEKDAYS AT 6 AM**



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone - one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Crossword across

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Easter entree | 31 Carpet |
| 5 Old, in the dict. | 32 Solemn promise |
| 8 Hooters | 33 Sleep |
| 12 Curved molding | 36 Line |
| 13 Bikini half | 38 Census statistic |
| 14 Bog matter | 39 Chignon |
| 15 Gator's cousin | 40 In the group of |
| 16 2008 Shia LaBeouf movie | 43 Marksman |
| 18 "M*A*S*H" character | 47 Big name in frozen food |
| 20 German painter Max | 49 Summertime desserts |
| 21 Golfer Ernie | 50 Otherwise |
| 22 Merit badge org. | 51 Pismire |
| 23 Amulet | 52 Historic times |
| 26 Marble type | 53 Apocalypse |
| 30 Apply lightly | 54 In medias — |
| | 55 Foolproof |

Crossword down

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Ness or Lomond | 27 Previous night |
| 2 Taj Mahal city | 28 Second person |
| 3 Cat call? | 29 Lamb's dam |
| 4 Ted Danson sitcom | 31 "Catcher in the —" |
| 5 Follows orders | 34 Partnership, in a sense |
| 6 Scottish hillside | 35 Quiche maker's needs |
| 7 Droop | 36 Sine-non link |
| 8 Met shows | 37 Briefs et al. |
| 9 Alternative rock group | 39 Borscht ingredients |
| 10 Potato chip brand | 40 Sleeping |
| 11 Undo a dele | 41 Venus de — |
| 17 For fear that | 42 Approximately |
| 19 Shade device | 43 Unit of force |
| 22 Satchel | 44 Beige |
| 23 LPs' successors | 45 Calendar quantity |
| 24 Scoffer's laugh | 46 Being, to Brutus |
| 25 — Dhahi | 48 Corn spike |
| 26 Poolroom stick | |

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:	17-21 minSmart
Under 13 minGenius	21-25 minNot bad
13-17 minScholar	25+ minKeep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Chicken with Apricots and Cumin

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tbsp (25 mL) sunflower oil
- 8 chicken thighs, about 1 lb (500 g) in total
- 1 onion, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 tsp (10 mL) ground cumin
- 1 tsp (10 mL) ground cilantro
- 1-2/3 cups (400 mL) chicken stock
- 3 carrots, halved crosswise, then each half cut into 6 to 8 thick pieces
- 1 bulb fennel, halved lengthwise, then cut crosswise into slices
- 5 ripe but firm apricots, pitted and quartered
- Salt and fresh-ground black pepper
- Chopped fennel leaves from the bulb, or herb fennel

METHOD:

- Heat oil in a large Dutch oven over medium heat. Add chicken thighs and sauté until golden brown all over, 5 to 10 minutes. Remove from the pot. Add onion and garlic to Dutch oven and sauté until soft and golden, about 5 minutes.
- Stir in cumin and cilantro

and sauté 1 minute. Pour in stock, and return chicken to the Dutch oven together with carrots and fennel. Bring to a boil and stir well. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer until chicken is tender and juices run clear when the thickest part is pierced with a knife, about 30 minutes. Uncover and, if there is too much liquid, boil to reduce slightly.

3. Add apricots to Dutch oven and stir gently to mix. Simmer over low heat 5 minutes longer.

4. Season to taste with salt and pepper, sprinkle with fennel leaves, and serve with rice or potatoes.

PER SERVING

360 calories, 24 g total fat, 6 g saturated fat, 12 g carbohydrate, 13.3 g fibre, 22 g protein

SERVES 4



Horoscopes

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You don't have to bear a point-less burden. Someone is found guilty of showing disrespect. Restrain your temper if alarmed by a loud noise.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Everything will work out for the best. A persuasive person wins peoples' hearts. Someone begins a new chapter in their life.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Tears will be in someone's eyes. A neighbour's woes will have a direct impact. A good connection is made with a gleeful person.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Material goods become a divisive issue. What you see is what you get. The dictates of a good conscience will smooth a path.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Take heed of a warning. Control your mind and be brave. Don't expect a distasteful man to understand anything.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Imagine the possibility of being free. Socialize with a fabulous man to change your status. It's up to you to fix a dire situation.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You're wiser than you feel. Tell the truth about a bad situation. People are pleasant for a good reason.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
You'll be the most stable person in a group. A sympathetic approach helps a perplexed friend. Be sure to rest later.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Make decisions based on a lack of support. Existential loneliness is the upshot of the latest crisis. Shape the future with yesterday's hero.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Bad times won't last forever. Lower your expectations to find peace. Spend more time enjoying the company of friends.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A brave man gives you pleasure. Your sense of judgment is impaired by misdirection. A blabbermouth's falsehood is discovered.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You'll find out what you really need. A coward will confess with shame. An isolated person takes pleasure in your efforts.

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

- Repair snapshots, in brief (1)
- Shopping mecca booth (1)
- Recliner or rocker stylishness (1)
- British House member's bungees (1)
- Observing bad winner behavior (2)
- Radio jock Stern cringed in fear (2)
- Young Darth Vader's shop window dummies (3)

ANSWERS: 1. MALL STALL 2. CHAIR FLAIR 3. LORDS CORDS 4. NOTTING GLOATING 5. HOWARD COVERED 6. LAMBKIN NANNING 7. LAMBKIN NANNING

11-18-08

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